

International Olympic Day is on June 23, with countries around the world conducting races to commemorate the event. This year, Aruba's Olympic Committee (COA) was preoccupied with preparing for the Pan American Games, a presage to the Olympics and like the summer games, conducted every four years.

Nicole Hoevertsz, Secretary of COA announced earlier this week that the annual Olympic Day run will be conducted this Saturday, August 18 at 5:00 PM beginning at the Fisherman's Huts north of the Marriott Resort. MacDonald's and Coca-Cola are the sponsors of the event, and in Palm Beach MacDonald's Ms. Hoevertz, along with Raphael Lopez of Arruwac, the Aruba Running and Walking Club, announced the upcoming fun/run five-kilometer walk.

Registration will be at the starting point at 4:00 PM, and cost of participation is 5 Arubian Florins (\$2.85.) This year, they walk will entail a pleasant route along Aruba's western shoreline to Arashi and back to Fisherman's Huts, while enjoying the sunset. The Olympic Walk is a popular event, and they expect a good turnout. "This is not a race," announced Ms. Hoevertsz, "there are no specific winners as all that are participating are winners. This walk is about enjoying participating in healthy exercise, which makes us all winners." There will be fruit and refreshments for at the end of the walk, and souvenir tee shirts for registered participants.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate in this walk to commemorate Olympic achievement and physical fitness, and organizers expressed the hope of seeing a good turnout this year.